

## MALAWI

**Population:** 13,013,926

**HIV Prevalence:** 14.2%

**Life Expectancy** at birth: 41.7

Number of **Orphans:** 1,000,000 (all causes)

**Gross National Income:** \$170  
(Yearly rate per person)

### Adult Literacy

**Male: 76.1% Female: 49.8%**

**Human Development Index Rating:** 166  
(Scale of all countries 1-177 from highest quality of living to lowest)

<b>Major Religions:</b>	Population%
Christian	79.9%
Muslim	12.8%
Other	3%
None	4.3%

### Economy:

Ranks among the world's least developed countries. It is a predominantly agricultural, with tobacco accounting for over 60% of exports. The government faces strong challenges, including developing a market economy, improving educational facilities, facing up to environmental problems, etc.

### Political Situation

**Current:** Multiparty democracy

**Brief History:** Obtained independence from UK 6 July 1964. After three decades of one-party rule under President Hastings Kamuzu Banda the country held multiparty elections in 1994, under a provisional constitution which came into full effect the following year. Despite having a stable government, Malwai has not seen true democracy.

**Presbyterian Church (USA) Partner Church:** Church of Central Africa, Presbyterian (CCAP) (This denomination has synods in 3 countries including Malawi. And, in Malawi, the 3 synods function essentially as 3 distinct but related entities, listed below.)

CCAP- Blantyre Synod  
CCAP- Nkhoma Synod  
CCAP- Livingstonia Synod

### Challenges:

Malawi is now the Southern African base for the Africa Muslim Agency. Since 9-11 there has been increasing Islamist agitation and isolated acts of violence against Christians.

AIDS is having devastating impact in Malawi. Life expectancy continues to decrease and 60% of new AIDS infections in the 14-25 age range are girls. The country is overwhelmed with orphans. The CCAP excels in community based orphan care programs and home-based care of HIV/AIDS affected families.

There is widespread famine in the country after crop failures for the past several years. Combined with HIV/AIDS, it is causing vast suffering, and high death rates.

### Resources:

*Operation World 2005*  
*CIA World Factbook 2006*  
UNDP 2006 Human Development Index  
Unicef- *State of the World's Children*  
[www.pcusa.org/worldwide](http://www.pcusa.org/worldwide)

